

I have been carefully over this case, going through the brief of the counsel for the accused, going through the extracts of the testimony and the brief of the Judge Advocate General. The utmost leniency that I could show would be to allow him to resign. He is obviously entirely incompetent to remain any longer in the service. I need not say, my dear Senator, how I regret my inability to do what you request; but it would not be fair to do for one man who had influential friends anything I would not do for the man who had not a friend in the world. I try to handle the Army and the Navy on the basis of doing absolute justice and showing no favoritism for any reason, a course which I know has your hearty approval."

In the spring of 1906, there was much talk about what Eoosevelt would do when he retired from the Presidency, and among various suggestions there was one that he might be chosen President of Harvard University. To a Massachusetts friend, who had written to him about it asking him if he would accept, he replied on March 7, 1906:

"It is simply impossible for me to give you a definite answer three years in advance. People have spoken to me about it, of course. I had never thought of myself as president of a college. I have not the slightest idea how I would do as such, and I haven't an idea whether when I get out of here I will feel that I could immediately go into such work;

nor do I know whether any work will be
offered to me of
any kind, or rather, whether the chance of any
work will
come up, and if so, what kind of work. I would
hate to
commit myself definitely so far in advance. Any
President
on retiring ought to be proud and grateful to
serve as
President of Harvard. But to say that I would
serve is
impossible for me now, simply because I do not
know what
the circumstances will be. It is very unlikely
that other
work in which I should feel that with my
peculiar abilities
and non-abilities I could do better, would
arise, but it is
always possible."